Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Representations for providing a Public Library and Reading Room in Kunnamkulam.

87. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to mention:—

(a) whether there is a Government or aided public library and reading room at Kunnamkulam; and if not,

(b) what steps have been taken by the Government to provide one for the use of the people of that town;

(c) whether the Government have not received petitions and representations regarding the above; and if so,

(d) how have they been disposed of?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) No.

(b) Proposals are under consideration to aid a library in the place.

(c) Yes.

(d) Vide answer to (b).

Widening Naduppanthy in Kunnamkulam.

88. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state with respect to the repeated requests and representations from the people of Kunnamkulam for widening Naduppanthy:—

(a) whether this work has been carried out by the Government;

(b) whether it is not recorded in page 1796 of the Legislative Council, Report, Vol. II, Part 22, the following statement made by the Diwan-President: "I have myself sanctioned the work. Accidents are likely to occur there, as there is no bell-mouth there";

(c) what steps have been taken by the Government to avoid accidents there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) No.

(b) The attention of the Member is invited to the answer already furnished to this part, vide question 346, Legislative Session of Kumbham 1104.

(c) A gas light is put up. Regarding the work of widening Naduppanthy, vide answer to question No. 152, Budget Session of 1101.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the reason for not taking up this work which the Diwan has already sanctioned?

President.—This Naduppanthi?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—This is like the previous question. This has been clearly answered on two or three occasions in this House.

President.—Then why should it come up again?

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—This should have been stopped at the beginning. This was fully answered. I remember it myself. From 1101 it has started.

President.—From 1101?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The answer to question No. 303 is

"It is a very costly affair, and the work will involve a great capital outlay. Unless and until the people concerned come forward and give up the ground and houses standing thereon free, Government cannot say definitely when the work could be taken up."

Later on,.....

President.—I think you have studied these questions.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I must see that there is an end of this question. They have moved demands without number.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—But the matter has not ended and that is why they come up again.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It has remained there.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Then again during the Budget Session of 1101 the same question was put and the answer given then was:

"(c) The Government do not consider that there is sufficient justification for the large outlay required for widening the place. The amount available year after year could, with advantage, be shent on sanitary improvements in the town which would be conducive to the health of the people generally, and therefore, of far great importance than the scheme under reference."

There everything has been stated clearly.

President.—Were there not supplementary questions?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Supplementary questions also have been answered. It is considered that it is a very crowded place, and it is better to have a bell-mouth there, and so on. But the cost is so prohibitive that the Government consider it useful for the towns-people in Kunnamkulam. It could be taken up with more advantage than this, and I believe that the question of the construction of the bell-mouth can be taken up only when the people take up the improvement of the roads.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the reason for not taking up the work which the Diwan has sanctioned? It was stated here by the Diwan 'I have myself sanctioned the work as there is no bell-mouth there.'

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Where is it sanctioned?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Please read through the Proceedings. The work has been sanctioned by the Diwan.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The Diwan has not sanctioned the work.

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Mr. K. T. Mathew.—The remarks of the President are printed on page 1796 of the Legislative Council Report, Vol. II, Part 22. They are 'I have myself sanctioned the work. Accidents are likely to occur there, as there is no bell-mouth'. The Diwan concedes that that is a crowded locality and the work should be taken up early and the matter should be referred to the P. W. Department.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In answer to question No. 152 of the Budget Session of 1101 it is said that the Diwan consider that as a crowded locality and that the work should be taken up, if possible, and that the matter should be referred to the P.W.D. and to me. All of us have, in accordance with the instruction received from the Diwan, gone and inspected the place, and what I read is the text of the report. In the report it was stated that the cost of the outlay was so great that it cannot be taken up. The phrase used there by the Diwan is not for any particular work. It is not a sanction. In the answer that I have read that same phrase comes. It is not for any special work.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Here he has stated 'I have myself sanctioned the work.' What does it mean?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It does not mean that. It is no sanction.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—A new dictionary must be made to make the meaning clear.

President.—How do you stand up at this time, Mr. Salem? I think you are not in order.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Here is the question:

"Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I have addressed a letter to the Government stating that the amount calculated for the works is Rs. 30,000, that the amount as per the estimate prepared is a costly one and requested the Government to make enquiries and evolve a suitable scheme." Then the President asked "Do you mean the Naduppanthy road? I have myself sanctioned the work. Accidents are likely to occur." As there is no bell-mouth, there is no work at all. It is only work in conception. No definite work was sanctioned, and then according to the P. W. D., what is stated is "I have inspected the place. According to the estimate it is a very costly undertaking. I shall go and see once more. So it cannot be taken as a sanction for that work."

Mr. K. T. Mathew.——Is it an imaginary work that the Diwan has sanctioned?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I cannot answer that question, Sir.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is the matter now under the consideration of the Government?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—I have myself inspected the work; The cost of acquisition would come to 8 lakhs.

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President.—It is only Rs. 30,000 in all.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—A statement was made like this yesterday or day before yesterday.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—I mean 8 lakhs per acre.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—He made such a statement yesterday or day before yesterday.

President.—Personal observations are objected.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—I said 8 lakhs an acre.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I asked the question and that answer was given to me.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is exactly how the matter stands.

President.—I think funds are not likely to be available.

Layam road in Ernakulam.

89. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to answer the following :—

(1) the length of the Layam road of Ward V of Ernakulam ;

(2) the amount of tax of all kinds assessed and collected from the tax-payers residing on either side of the road for one year ;

(3) the rank of the road regarding assessment of tax in proportion to the lengths of other roads is concerned ;

(4) the amount of money spent to maintain the road in 1104 ;

(5) the total amount spent to maintain the road till now from the date of its opening ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) 890 ft.

(2) Rs. 96—6—2.

(3) Roads are not ranked for purposes of assessment.

(4) About Rs. 30.

(5) About Rs. 1,500.

Article in a Palghat Weekly about the conduct of a clerk in the Police Commissioner's Office, &c.

90. **Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) (a) whether its attention has been drawn to an article published in the Prabhatham, dated 25th November 1929, Palghat Weekly Paper—on page 17 regarding the conduct of a clerk in the Police Commissioner's Office ;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made ;

(c) if so, with what result ;

(2) (i) is the attention of the Government drawn to an article published in the same paper of the same date on page 14

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